

Convention. In 1973, he was appointed to the National Highway Safety Advisory Committee and became chairman of the advisory committee until 1976. From 1976 to 1979, he was a Federal commissioner for the National Transportation Policy Study Commission. He became Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration in 1989 and served until 1993. He later served as chairman of the Amtrak Reform Council.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge Mr. Carmichael whose selfless personal qualities reflect a great deal of credit on my State and this Nation.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL BRUCE BRAMLETTE

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize former BG Bruce Bramlette of Fort Benton, MT, on behalf of his lifetime of dedication to our Nation and his selfless service on congressional U.S. Military Academy nomination boards. Bruce has tirelessly served on nomination boards for 25 years, both as a member and board chairman, and has interviewed more than 1,000 young Montana students seeking a nomination to one of our Nation's service academies. Throughout his years of conducting interviews, he has had numerous opportunities to meet and interact with incredible students from all over Montana. Bruce said it was his pleasure to help these students pursue their dreams of becoming an officer in one of our Nation's military branches.

In addition to Bruce's tremendous volunteer hours for the nomination boards, he proudly served in the Montana Air National Guard for 34 years. He retired in 1994 as the assistant adjutant general for air for the State of Montana. As a National Guard fighter pilot, Bruce successfully flew over 2,000 hours in the F106 Dart, F102 Dagger, and F89 Scorpion.

A graduate of Montana State University, Bruce has also been an active member in his community. He has served on the Highwood School Board for 9 years, is a lifelong member of the Air Force Association, and is an active member of Representative RYAN ZINKE's Veterans Advisory Board. Bruce and his wife of 43 years, Miriam, have three daughters and nine grandchildren.

Bruce recognizes the great value in supporting our next generation of leaders—especially those who will be defending and protecting our country. I am deeply thankful for Bruce's years of service to our State and Nation and his tireless work on behalf of Montana students.●

#### REMEMBERING BIG ED SMITH

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I would like to honor Edward B. Smith—a man of great character and a dedicated public servant who was called home on January 25, 2016, at the age of 95.

"Big Ed" was born in Dagmar, MT, in 1920. He and his wife, Juliet, raised four children near the family homestead, where Ed helped manage the family farm and ranch. He was an avid hunter and sportsman and earned his nickname "Big Ed" while playing in the Big Muddy Baseball league. Ed was an active member of the Sheridan County community, serving as a member of the Sheridan County Stockman Association, Wool Growers, and the Sheridan County Fair board, as well as a 4-H leader.

Ed's heart for service led him to run for the Montana State Legislature in 1966, where he served for 20 years. In 1972, Ed ran as Montana's Republican candidate for Governor. He went on to serve on Montana's Highway Commission for several years after retiring from the State legislature.

Big Ed was a commonsense and independent leader and a man of great integrity. He made a lasting impact on Montana and will be truly missed. Cindy and I will keep his wife, Juliet; his four children; and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren in our thoughts and prayers.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RANNA DAUD

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Ranna Daud, executive director for the After-School All-Stars Las Vegas, ASASLV, for her tireless efforts in helping Las Vegas's youth achieve prosperous futures. Ms. Daud has contributed greatly to her community by working to make ASASLV the best it can be.

ASASLV was initially organized in 2003 to provide Las Vegas's youth with a variety of free academic, athletic, and cultural afterschool programs, encouraging Nevada's students to maintain a successful and healthy lifestyle during afterschool hours. These programs are offered to students in pre-kindergarten through 8th grade at 13 different schools across the Clark County School District. To help students academically, ASASLV offers homework assistance, test preparation, and tutoring from certified teachers. It also offers classes in art, music leadership, cooking, business, and dance.

Aside from educational aid, the organization also emphasizes health and fitness. Activities such as soccer, volleyball, basketball, martial arts, yoga, and hiking are offered to students. Our State is fortunate to have someone such as Mrs. Daud leading this organization, which is critical in helping students across Las Vegas maintain a positive lifestyle.

Ms. Daud began working for ASASLV in 2004 as a program manager. She later returned to the organization in 2009 and served for 4 years before being selected as the executive director. In this role, Ms. Daud leads the organization in pursuit of its mission to help Nevada's youth. She also serves as the main voice in the community, working to build recognition for the program.

Ms. Daud's work with ASASLV has contributed greatly in making the organization an invaluable resource to Las Vegas's youth. She has gone above and beyond to build a positive base for Nevada's future generations.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Ms. Daud for all of her hard work in encouraging our youth to have successful and active futures. She is a shining example of someone who strives for the betterment of her community and displays true selflessness in her work. I am thankful to have Ms. Daud serving as an ally to Las Vegas's students, providing them a safe, healthy, and ambitious environment.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing Ms. Daud and her work for ASASLV, a program that is so important for Nevada's youth. I wish Ms. Daud the best of luck in all of her future endeavors working to help students across southern Nevada.●

#### RECOGNIZING WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY NEVADA

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Western Governors University, WGU Nevada. I am proud to honor this institution that offers Nevadans a unique opportunity to learn and achieve successful and positive futures.

Established in 1997, WGU Nevada is an online institution designed to offer greater access and flexibility to higher education. This university provides 50 accredited bachelor's and master's degrees in business, information technology, K-12 teacher education, and health professions, along with a variety of other tracks. WGU Nevada's mission to provide Silver State citizens with an opportunity to obtain an academic degree at their own pace will help enhance the lives of thousands of students, while also ensuring the needs of Nevada's employers are met.

WGU Nevada has gone above and beyond to help Nevadans obtain the tools they need to succeed. Recently, this institution provided 10 students in Nevada with the financial support needed to earn a degree that will advance their careers. I am grateful that WGU Nevada is working to create a brighter future for many across the Silver State.

As the husband of a teacher, I understand the important role academic institutions play in enriching the lives of Nevadans. Ensuring that students throughout Nevada are prepared to compete in the 21st century is critical for the future of our country. The State of Nevada is fortunate to be home to WGU Nevada.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing WGU Nevada. This institution is truly dedicated to enriching the lives of Nevadans, and I am honored to recognize its efforts.●

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN NOVAK

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to COL John Novak for